PUBLIC WORKS AND ELECTRICITY SECRETARIAT

Retransfer of trees on the road side widths to P W. D from the Forest Department

REFERENCE—G. O. No. PWD 46 CRM 71 dated 3rd May 1971.

PREAMBLE :—

In Government order No. PWD 46 CRM 71 dated 3rd May 1971 it was ordered that among other things, the trees on all road side widths of the national and State Highways in the State should be transferred to the Forest Department subject to the following conditions:—

(i) The Forest Department should see that no branch of a tree is less then 16' above the surface of the road as per I. R. C. Standards;

(ii) Whenever a tree, or a branch of a tree, were to fall on the road surface, Forest Department should take immediate action to clear it from the road, so that the traffic is not interrupted.

(iii) Whenever a tree, or a branch of a tre is in a dangerous condition, then the Forest Department should take immediate action to remove such tree, or a branch of a tree so as to prevent any untoward happenings.

(iv) If any tree is required to be felled on the road strips belonging to a National Highway, prior permission from the Central Government to do so, will be necessary till such time as a general agreement from the Central Government has been obtained in this regard

(v) The planting of trees on the sides of National Highways should be done in accordance with the Circular instructions issued by Government of India from time to time.

2, The Chief Engineer (C and B) and the Chief Engineer, National Highways have reported to Government the practical difficulties encountered as a result of transferring the trees to the Forest Department and implementing the orders of Government. The main difficulties they have brought to the notice of Government are as under ;—

(i) Whenever any trees or its branches fall across the road due to gales or other causes, the removal of the obstruction to traffic cannot be done by the Public Works Department Road Maintenance Staff then and there as hitherto since the trees are the property of the Forest Department and the officers of that Department have to clear the obstruction as per the stipulation contained in the G O. No. PWD 46 CRM 71 dated 3rd May 1971. The Public Works Department staff like road gang coolies etc., are not empowered to cut and remove the fallen tree or branches obstructing the flow of traffic.

(ii) Similarly whenever any tree or branches of a tree is in a dangerous condition, the Public Works Department staff who are in-charge of the road can only intimate the Officers of the Forest Department and will have to wait until they take appropriate action and non-removal of such dangerous tree constitutes a source of danger to life and property. If this is entrusted to Public Works Department only, it would be better to take timely action to remove the dangerous trees or portions of the same.

(iii) As per the National Highway Act, 1956 the ownership of all fences, trees, posts etc , on the National Highways vests with the Union Government. Consequently, transfer of the trees by the State Government to the Forest Department may have to be intimated to the Government of India and their concurrence obtained as an amendment to the National Highways Act.

3. It is further pointed out that whenever new trees are planted, they required to be watered reared and maintained in the initial stages. The Public Works Department has engaged at present about 10,000 gang coolies and that an amount of about Rs 1.00 crore to Rs 1.25 crores is being spent on them every year. The work turned out by them is too inadequate compared to the amount spent on them. It would be most advantageous to utilise their services of these gang coolies for planting and protection of avenue trees, as they are expected te be always on the roads while on duty.

ORDER No. PWD 46 CRM 71, BANGALORE DATED THE 30TH OCTOBER 1973.

In view of the circumstances explained, it is hereby ordered that in partial modification of orders issued in Government Order No. PWD 46 CRM 71 dated 3rd May 1971, all the trees on road side widths of all the roads in charge of the

Public Works Department except those on foreshore lands of reservoirs, are retransferred to Public Works Department from the Forest Department. It is the responsibility of the Public Works Department for planting, protecting and rearing the avenue trees on roadside widths, according to the practice prior to the issue of the Government Order cited above.

2. Technical advice regarding the species of trees to be planted etc., may however be obtained from the Forest Department. The Forest Department may also supply plants to the Public Works Department.

3. This Order issues with the concurrence of Agriculture and Forest Department and Finance Department U.O. No. 7058 dated 4th September 1973 and No. 3753/FC/73 dated 24th September 1973.

By Order and in the name of the Governor of Mysore,

K. B. MURARAPPA,

Deputy Secretary to Government,

297 *Public Works and Elecy. Department.*

SOCIAL WELFARE AND LABOUR SECRETARIAT

Welfare of Backward Classes—Scheme for sanction of financial assistance to Craft and Trade Co-operatives and Small Scale Industries—Extension of benefits of the Scheme to Scheduled Tribes.

READ:—(1) G. O. No. PSW 8 SST 69, dated 5th March 1970.

(2) Letter No. DSW/EMP-3/PR-56/73-74, dated 3rd November 1973, from the Director of Social Welfare, Bangalore.

PREAMBLE:—In the G. O. cited at (1) above, rules governing the sanction of financial assistance to the Craft Co-operative Small Scale Industries and Co-operatives formed by the Scheduled Castes, Denotified Tribes and Nomadic and Semi-Nowadic Tribes have been issued.

The Director of Social Welfare in his letter cited (2) above states that the rules issued in the G. O. cited (1) above do not cover Scheduled Tribes and that representations have been received from the people belonging to the Scheduled Tribes for the sanction of financial assistance under the G. O. cited above.

The Director of Social Welfare, therefore, requests orders of Government for extending the benefits given to Scheduled Castes, Denotified Tribes and Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes under G. O. cited (1) above to Scheduled Tribes also.

ORDER NO. SWD 173 SEA 73, BANGALORE, DATED 3RD JANUARY 1974.

Sanction is hereby accorded for extending the benefits given to Scheduled Castes, Denotified Tribes, and Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes under G. O. No. PSW 8 SST 69, dated 5th March 1970 to the Scheduled Tribes also.

This Order issues with the concurrence of the Financial Department *vide* its U. O. No. FD/UO/4353/W2/73, dated 12th December 1973.

By Order and in the name of the Governor of Karnataka,

K. KESHAVA RAO,

I/c Under Secretary to Government,

405 *S. W. and Labour Department.*